



MI-CW2810

Michigan Crop Weather

July 12, 2010

Hot and Humid

Six days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending July 11, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation varied from 0.35 inches in the east central Lower Peninsula to 2.22 inches in the eastern Upper Peninsula. Above average temperatures ranged from 6 degrees above normal for the western Upper Peninsula to 8 degrees above normal in the northwest, northeast, central, east central, and southeast Lower Peninsula and eastern Upper Peninsula. The much-needed rain was helpful during the hot and humid week. Many farmers were able to begin wheat harvest this week. The recent rain raised concerns about possible wheat sprouting. First cutting hay is about complete with second cutting of fields beginning. ‘A good week, fields are drying out and we got just the right amount of rain,’ stated one reporter in the southwestern Lower Peninsula. Another producer in the central Lower Peninsula reported, ‘Dry beans and sugar beets are still suffering from too much water.’

Field Crops

Field crop development was about a week ahead of normal. Rain in southern counties will boost growth. **Corn** was nearly one-third silked. The first cutting of **alfalfa** wound down as the second cutting got underway. **Wheat** harvest was ahead of schedule. Moisture was 15-20 percent in the east central area; yields and quality were very good. In the southeast, however, yields have been down substantially from last year. The **oat** harvest began, and **barley** was virtually finished heading. **Sugarbeet** fields were wet in some areas but needed rain elsewhere. Many growers have sprayed for leafspot control. **Soybeans** were over one-third blooming, and pods began setting in many fields. **Drybeans** showed some water damage; bloom has begun.

Soil moisture for week ending 07/11/10				
Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	7	24	63	6
Subsoil	6	21	68	5

Crop condition for week ending 07/11/10					
Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All Hay	1	5	20	52	22
Barley	0	13	25	41	21
Corn	1	5	16	47	31
Dry beans	3	11	32	38	16
Oats	0	3	21	51	25
Pasture	0	3	20	56	21
Soybeans	1	5	22	49	23
Winter Wheat	1	4	17	54	24

Fruit

The fruit crop season was about 1 to 2 weeks ahead of normal in the Grand Rapids and southeast areas. Crops on sandy soils showed signs of drought stress in the southwest. **Apples** were sizing well in the Grand Rapids and southwest areas, and fruit size was about 2.25 to 2.5 inches in the southeast. Fire blight continued to spread in the southwest and west central areas. Harvest of early varieties of **peaches** began in the southwest and Grand Rapids areas. European **plums** were about 1.5 inches in length and 1.25 in width in the southeast; early variety plums were beginning to ripen in the southwest. **Strawberry** harvest has finished in the northwest and Grand Rapids areas, and renovation was generally complete in the southwest and southeast areas. **Sweet cherries** were nearing the end of harvest in the northwest, and harvest has finished in the southwest and southeast areas. Cherry leaf spot symptoms were becoming common in the southwest. **Tart cherry** harvest was underway in the northwest, and harvest continued in the west central and southwest areas. Bruising from wind was evident in the southwest and northwest areas. **Pears** ranged from 1.5 to 1.75 inches in the southeast to about 2 inches in diameter in the southwest. Early varieties of **blueberries** started to turn color in the southeast; harvest was well underway in the southwest. Mummyberry fruit symptoms continued to appear as the fruit ripens in the southwest. **Grapes** were close to berry touch in the southeast; fruit on primary shoots were closing with most of the berries touching and buckshot sized on secondary shoots in the southwest. Summer **raspberries** harvest has begun in the northwest, and harvest continued in the southwest and southeast.

Vegetables

Hot and humid days last week aided vegetable development and harvest but kept growers busy with irrigation. In Oceana County, asparagus harvest was complete and growers were tallying final numbers for this year’s crop. Major asparagus pests, such as common asparagus beetle, rust, purple spot and asparagus miner, were active. Harvest of **cabbage**, **yellow squash**, **zucchini** and **cucumbers** was ongoing in the southwest and Grand Rapids areas. Harvest of **potatoes**, **garlic**, and **snap beans** continued. **Carrots** continued to progress. Cercospora and Alternaria (carrot leaf blight) were reported. **Sweet corn** developed quickly with the hot weather, but showed signs of moisture stress in the Macomb County area. Early varieties were tasseled and silked in Oceana County. In the Grand Rapids area, sweet corn fields grown under plastic were for sale. **Onions** and **leeks** looked good in drier areas but had significant damage on wetter soils. In the Grand Rapids area, growers continued to transplant **celery** but were harvesting other celery fields. **Tomatoes**, **peppers**, and **eggplant** looked good and were growing rapidly. Some tomatoes that were grown under high tunnels were being harvested. **Watermelons** were growing well and had tennis ball sized fruit in the southwest. **Cantaloupe** harvest was underway in southwest Michigan. **Pumpkins** were flowering and runnering. Squash vine borers were out earlier than normal. Additionally, some foliar diseases were reported on pumpkins. **Parsnips**, **radishes**, **turnips**, and **red beets** looked good in the Grand Rapids area. Harvest of radishes was on-going but planting continued in other fields.

Crop progress for week ending 07/11/10				
Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
Corn, height	60	42	38	47
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All hay, first cutting	91	86	95	96
All hay, second cutting	40	28	26	33
Barley, headed	96	93	64	13
Blueberries, harvested	18	15	21	12
Dry beans, blooming	9	NA	1	5
Oats, headed	97	94	87	94
Oats, turning yellow	52	NA	24	32
Oats, harvested	6	NA	0	0
Soybeans, blooming	40	26	15	23
Strawberries, harvested	98	86	86	89
Tart cherries, harvested	46	15	12	28
Winter wheat, turning yellow	99	96	85	96
Winter wheat, harvested	43	NA	1	12

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 07/11/10 ¹												
Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2010	2009	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	84	54		1,054	790		1.65	1.97	5.71	11.85		
Marquette	84	54		1,017	669		1.65	1.97	5.71	11.85		
Stephenson	86	54		1,212	899		1.83	2.41	8.31	13.42		
Western UP	86	46	6	1,060	737	843	1.80	2.12	5.73	11.92	10.30	3.42
Cornell	85	53		1,135	817		2.21	3.16	7.42	12.92		
Sault St Marie	85	53		1,041	667		0.29	0.31	2.99	8.21		
Eastern UP	86	53	8	1,013	676	685	2.22	2.50	6.20	11.96	9.68	3.19
Beulah	87	60		1,232	945		0.52	0.53	2.99	10.90		
Lake City	92	54		1,215	908		0.92	0.92	3.18	12.69		
Old Mission	88	57		1,197	850		0.17	0.17	2.14	10.78		
Pellston	86	48		1,171	812		0.61	0.95	5.42	12.05		
Northwest	92	48	8	1,169	847	974	0.39	0.45	2.73	10.75	9.35	2.99
Alpena	91	54		1,145	850		1.14	1.53	3.08	11.38		
Houghton Lake	88	53		1,276	901		1.74	1.74	3.05	10.86		
Rogers City	91	54		1,057	858		0.80	1.48	5.09	13.29		
Northeast	91	53	7	1,190	871	935	1.54	1.76	3.98	12.12	9.12	3.18
Fremont	90	59		1,372	1,049		0.42	0.63	1.86	7.81		
Hart	88	60		1,289	981		0.92	0.92	4.88	10.27		
Muskegon	90	64		1,447	1,114		0.41	0.41	3.19	9.89		
West Central	90	57	8	1,343	1,033	1,083	0.51	0.56	3.46	9.54	9.58	2.54
Alma	92	60		1,418	1,055		1.17	1.17	4.56	15.37		
Big Rapids	91	59		1,320	1,006		0.61	1.86	3.14	13.52		
Central	92	58	8	1,368	1,032	1,143	0.79	1.10	3.18	12.10	10.20	2.97
Bad Axe	92	59		1,317	934		0.11	0.11	3.15	12.72		
Pigeon	92	54		1,309	935		0.04	0.04	2.26	9.62		
Saginaw	92	62		1,492	1,068		0.82	0.82	3.28	10.88		
Standish	91	57		1,277	957		0.35	0.35	2.95	13.36		
East Central	94	54	8	1,317	974	1,124	0.35	0.35	2.75	11.70	9.32	2.92
Fennville	91	61		1,393	1,106		1.39	1.39	5.81	17.12		
Grand Rapids	92	62		1,557	1,230		1.53	1.53	6.70	17.70		
Holland	93	64		1,555	1,297		1.58	1.58	4.91	18.91		
South Bend, IN	93	60		1,584	1,346		0.51	0.51	4.49	15.23		
Watervliet	93	60		1,496	1,204		0.60	0.63	4.27	13.83		
Southwest	95	53	7	1,501	1,219	1,229	0.79	0.81	4.73	15.33	10.98	3.09
Belding	90	58		1,388	1,055		0.80	0.81	3.72	13.62		
Coldwater	93	59		1,558	1,263		0.45	0.45	2.53	13.30		
Lansing	92	60		1,514	1,134		0.46	0.47	2.28	11.97		
South Central	93	58	7	1,459	1,147	1,225	1.18	1.19	3.79	14.18	10.78	3.22
Detroit	94	64		1,633	1,295		0.56	0.56	2.69	13.22		
Flint	94	60		1,509	1,119		1.42	1.42	3.09	12.06		
Romeo	96	62		1,427	1,101		0.66	0.66	1.79	11.17		
Tipton	93	62		1,490	1,197		0.52	0.52	2.92	15.61		
Toledo, OH	95	61		1,662	1,334		0.63	0.63	1.72	14.32		
Southeast	96	53	8	1,515	1,220	1,194	0.87	0.87	2.66	14.08	10.55	3.11

¹ Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

² Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.